GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:53
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
STRICT ADHERENCE OF GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO SCRAP IMPORT
Nishad Shri Mahendra Prasad;Yadav Shri Baleshwar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel scrap imported into the country during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise;

(b) the details of the live shells recovered from the scrap imported by the importing companies all over the country during last one year;

(c) whether import procedures were violated while importing the scrap by Bhushan Steel, Ghaziabad;

(d) if so, details thereof including the reasons for blasts;

(e) the details of cases of violations of procedures examined and guilty punished;

(f) whether the Government propose to review import policy of scrap in view of the above; and

(g) if so, details thereof and the time by which the review will be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REGARDING PART (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.53 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 03.12.2004

Steel scrap is being imported by the Indian Steel User Industry as a raw material. Since there is a huge domestic shortage of scrap, the Steel Industry imports large quantities of scrap to meet the requirements. Recently certain cases have come to the notice of the Government wherein import of scrap containing live shells have occurred thereby causing blasts and consequently loss of human life. These imports of live shells etc. are in violation of the Foreign Trade Policy and the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulations) Act, 1992. After a series of Inter-Ministerial consultations the Government has laid down certain new guidelines and procedures for import of metallic scrap and waste. According to these procedures import of all kinds of metallic scrap and waste in unshredded, compressed or loose form will be accompanied by a pre-inspection certificate to the effect that the imported consignment does not contain any ammunition, or other explosive material or radio-active material irrespective of the source of such imports. Such imports will also be subject to 100% examination.

The details of quantity of steel scrap imported into the country during the last three years, year-wise and country-wise is available in the Publication `Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India, Vol. II (Imports) - Annual Number` published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics which is available in the Parliament Library. Details of live shells recovered from the scrap during the last one year is not compiled by the Department of Commerce. As regards action taken against those found guilty of violation of the import policy, a show cause notice has been issued to M/s. Bhushan Steel, Ghaziabad.